

jobs and looking at how we try to implement a program that gets money to the State. States put in matching funds so we can create jobs around school construction and airports and roads and bridges and so forth.

So a modest set of proposals that can be implemented. I think we can all be proud of the families first agenda.

Mr. PALLONE. The other thing, when you were talking about the pensions, I heard a lot about the portability. In the same way we were talking about the health insurance portability in the families first agenda you have the pension portability. A lot of people came and said, "You know, I can't take my pension with me if I change my job." That I think is part of the families first agenda too, which is a great idea, because so many people today have many jobs over the course of their time they are working.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am glad the gentleman mentioned all of the factors that really working women are not just concerned about, many of them are frantic about. In my district in Westchester County, this morning Secretary Reich spoke on the teleprompter, or whatever those big TV screens are called, to a large group of women that were there for a Working Woman Conference. They got together because these women are so frustrated.

It takes two to support a family today, both the husband and the wife are there working, and there are a whole lot of discussions about child care, how are they going to pay for child care, how are they going to send their kids to college? They are worried about everyday living. That is why the President's proposal for a \$10,000 tax credit was talked about today, because it is so important.

I am hoping that we can really work together to get some of these proposals in the families first agenda through this Congress, because they are not pie in the sky, they are practical proposals, creating partnerships between the public and the private sector to create more child care positions, to make pension reform a real part of our congressional agenda, to help women go out and start businesses.

We have been involved with the glass ceiling, and you know what happens when a woman hits that glass ceiling in a big corporation. She takes all the skills she has learned in the community as a mother, as a boss, and goes out and starts her own business. But a lot of these proposals in the families first agenda are real, they are doable, and we can get them done, if we really focus and work together.

So with President Clinton's leadership, working with those of us who have been fighting for women and families and children for a very long time, I think we can achieve our goals.

Mr. PALLONE. I appreciate that. I just want to thank the two of you for joining in this special order tonight. We sort of started out by saying how the GINGRICH Republican leadership

agenda was really out of touch with America's values and what people think we should be doing here in Congress. But, at the same time now, as Democrats we have our own agenda, the families first agenda. More and more what I found during the August break was that people understand that, and they think that is the way to go, modest proposals to move forward in a progressive way to help the average American.

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#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3719, THE SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1996

Mr. SOLOMON (during special orders), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-773) on the resolution (H. Res. 516) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3719) to amend the Small Business Act and Small Business Investment Act of 1958, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3308, THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES PROTECTION ACT

Mr. SOLOMON (during special orders), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-774) on the resolution (H. Res. 517) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3308) to amend title 10, United States Code, to limit the placement of United States forces under United Nations operational or tactical control, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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#### PRIDE IN THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAYWORTH). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS] is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to use about 30 minutes, give or take, and then yield back time which then will be claimed by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WELDON].

With that, I would like to just thank you for serving as Speaker, as Acting Speaker, and to tell you that I was looking forward to addressing this Chamber tonight, particularly more so after hearing my colleagues who just preceded me. For a variety of reasons, I just strongly disagree with their attempt to really spin what this Congress has done.

Let me say from the outset I have never been more proud to be a Republican in this 104th Congress, to serve with so many other men and women

who believe deeply in doing some very important lifting for this country.

Preceding the 1994 election, Republicans who were in the minority made a determination that we wanted to present a very positive plan for the American people, and that this plan would be a statement of what we intended to do if in fact we became part of a new majority.

We decided that we would set forward this plan in a Capitol steps event, and not just invite incumbent Members of Congress, but those that were challenging incumbent Members of Congress. We also decided we wanted people to have a sense that if there was this new Congress, there would be a major shift in policy and direction, and that we would promise to do much like what might happen in Britain or Canada or Israel, that when you had a change in government, you really had a change in direction.

So we set out with what we called the Contract With America. It was a contract that we collectively, Republicans, both incumbents and those challenging, put together. When we started working on our Contract With America, there were things we took out because we could not sign if they were still in. So what remained of our contract was a piece of effort that really had the support of almost everyone, 390-plus Members and challengers who signed this Contract With America, and I was one of them.

I remember when I was being interviewed by one of the editorial boards before the 1994 election, I was asked how could I as a moderate Republican sign on to the Contract With America, as if somehow this contract was something that I would not be proud to be associated with.

So I thought about it a second, and I said to the people asking me the question, "What do you think of the Democrats' Contract With America? The 8 reforms they want on opening day, the 10 reforms they want in the first 100 days?"

I asked the question and waited for an answer, and I waited. And finally I said, "Isn't it interesting that the majority party," the then Democrats who were then the majority, "had no plan, didn't share what they wanted to do, no sense of direction?" And here you had a minority party that was not sure it would be in the majority, promising they would do certain things.

I said, "Isn't it also interesting that our Contract With America did not criticize President Clinton or the 103d Congress or the 102d Congress or the 101st Congress?" There was not any criticism of Democrats. It was just a positive plan of what we wanted to do.

The reforms in the first day of Congress, those eight reforms, getting Congress to live under all the laws that we imposed on the rest of the country, Congress had exempted itself from the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the age discrimination,